World Bank's approach towards India's Power Sector

4054. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that World Bank is now insisting on privatisation of existing power units and discourage public sector in the energy field in future;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what is the response of Government to the report that was realised in February, 1993 outlining the World Bank's new approach to the energy sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) Private Sector participation in power projects is being encouraged by the Government, inter-alia, to bridge the resource gap of proposed capacity addition in the VIII Plan and beyond and not because of any conditionalities imposed by the World Bank. The background paper for a seminar on proposed Power Management & Implementation Review, held in Goa, in October, 1992, prepared by the World Bank refers to the need for commercialising State-owned power utilities, their earning a minimum statutory rate of return on capital invested, improving the efficiency of the regulatory mechanisms in the power sector and emphasise energy conservation, particularly end-use efficiency. These aspects are already receiving attention, of the Union Government.

Progress of work at Mejia Thermal Power Project

4055. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that work at the Mejia Thermal Power Project is in progress;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof.

(c) whether it is also a fact that this project will help establish communication link with industrial areas, especilaly between Ranigunja and Mejia; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Physical progress in terms of approximate percentages of work completed are given below :—

Unit 1	37%
Unit 2	25%
Unit 3	18%
Complete Project	27%

(c) and (d) To link Mejia Thermal Power Station, a rail-cum-road bridge over the river Damodar near Ranigunje is under construction. Formation work has already been started from Raniugnje side

Installed capacity Power Plants in Northern States

4056. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present installed capacity of the existing power plants in Northern States, plant-wise and State-wise;

(b) what is the approximate power requirement of the States; and

(c) what steps are being taken/proposed to be taken by Government to generate additional power to meet the requirement of each State?